

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (withdrawn-currently amended) An automated method for selling
2 information to a buying system, comprising:
3 relating information to an event that has not yet occurred and storing the
4 information in electronic form;
5 offering the information for online sale through a selling system;
6 receiving from a buying system an offer for the information that includes a
7 contingency that specifies an uncertainty of the event occurring;
8 specifying a condition for the information that will resolve the uncertainty
9 and thereby satisfy the contingency;
10 providing the information and the condition from the selling system,
11 wherein acceptance of the condition forms a contract;
12 triggering at least part of a payment from the buying system upon
13 satisfaction of the condition; [[and]]
14 receiving the payment upon the buying system having determined that the
15 satisfaction of the condition has resolved the uncertainty and thereby satisfied the
16 contingency; contingency; and
17 adjusting an amount for the at least part of the payment based directly on
18 accuracy of a predicted probability against a true probability that the condition for
19 the contingency will occur.

1 2. (withdrawn) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising
2 receiving a base payment as the payment when the information has been provided
3 to the buying system.

1 Claim 3. (cancelled).

- 1 4. (withdrawn) The method as set forth in claim 3, further
2 comprising:
3 selecting the predicted probability for the condition to resolve the
4 uncertainty to thereby satisfy the contingency; and
5 determining the amount for the payment based on a function which uses
6 the predicted probability for the condition for the contingency occurring.
- 1 5. (withdrawn-currently amended) The method as set forth in claim 4,
2 wherein the amount of the payment is maximized when the predicted probability
3 for the condition occurring is equal to [[a]] the true probability for the condition
4 occurring.
- 1 6. (withdrawn) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising
2 setting the condition to resolve the uncertainty to thereby satisfy the contingency
3 in the received offer.
- 1 7. (withdrawn) The method as set forth in claim 6, further
2 comprising:
3 sending a counteroffer to the buying system based on the offer, the
4 counteroffer providing the condition set to resolve the uncertainty to thereby
5 satisfy the contingency to the buying system; and
6 determining if the counteroffer with the condition set is accepted by the
7 buying system, wherein the information is only provided upon the condition set
8 being accepted.
- 1 Claim 8. (cancelled).
- 1 Claim 9. (cancelled).
- 1 10. (withdrawn) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein one or
2 more of the steps are carried out electronically.

11. (currently amended) A system for selling information to a buying system comprising:

- an interface operatively coupled to a buying system via a communication link;
- a memory storage device to store information and computer-executable program code in electronic form;
- a ~~processor~~, processor configured to execute the computer-executable program code on computer-executable program modules, comprising:
 - a relation module configured to relate the information to an event that has not yet occurred;
 - an offer module configured to offer the information for online sale;
 - a receiving module configured to receive an offer from the buying system for the information that includes a contingency that specifies an uncertainty of the event occurring;
 - a specification module configured to specify a condition for the information that will resolve the uncertainty and thereby satisfy the contingency;
 - a condition module configured to provide the information and the condition, wherein acceptance of the condition forms a contract;
 - a trigger module configured to trigger at least part of a payment from the buying system upon satisfaction of the condition; and
 - a contingent payment module configured to receive the payment upon the buying system having determined that the satisfaction of the condition has resolved the uncertainty and thereby satisfied the ~~contingency~~, contingency, wherein the contingency payment module is further configured to adjust an amount for the at least part of the payment based directly on accuracy of a predicted probability against a true probability that the condition to resolve the uncertainty to thereby satisfy the contingency occurs.

1 12. (currently amended) The system as set forth in claim 11, further
2 comprising a base payment ~~processing system that receives~~ module configured to
3 receive a base payment as the payment when the information has been provided.

1 Claim 13. (canceled).

1 14. (currently amended) The system as set forth in claim [[[13,]]] 11,
2 wherein the contingency payment ~~processing system selects~~ module is further
3 configured to select the predicted probability to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy
4 the condition for the contingency and a function for determining the amount for
5 the payment based on the predicted probability for the condition for the
6 contingency occurring.

1 15. (currently amended) The system as set forth in claim 14, wherein
2 the contingency payment ~~processing system maximizes~~ module is further
3 configured to maximize the amount of the contingent payment when the predicted
4 probability for the condition occurring is substantially the same as [[a]] the true
5 probability for the condition occurring.

1 16. (currently amended) The system as set forth in claim 11, further
2 comprising a condition setting ~~system which sets~~ module configured to set the
3 condition to resolve the uncertainty to thereby satisfy the contingency in the
4 received offer.

1 17. (currently amended) The system as set forth in claim 16, further
2 comprising:
3 a counteroffer ~~system that sends~~ module configured to send a counteroffer
4 to the buying system based on the offer, the counteroffer ~~provides~~ providing the
5 condition set to resolve the uncertainty to thereby satisfy the contingency to the
6 buying system; and

7 a purchase decision ~~system that determines~~ module configured to
8 determine if the counteroffer with the condition set is accepted by the buying
9 system, wherein the information is only provided upon the condition set being
10 accepted.

1 Claim 18. (cancelled).

1 Claim 19. (cancelled).

1 20. (currently amended) The system as set forth in claim 11, wherein
2 ~~the receiving system receives~~ the offer is received and ~~the source of the~~
3 ~~information provides~~ the information is provided electronically.

1 21. (withdrawn-currently amended) A computer readable medium
2 having stored instructions for selling contingent information which when
3 executed by a processor, causes the processor to perform:
4 relating information to an event that has not yet occurred and storing the
5 information in electronic form;
6 offering the information for online sale through a selling system;
7 receiving from a buying system an offer for the information that includes a
8 contingency that specifies an uncertainty of the event occurring;
9 specifying a condition for the information that will resolve the uncertainty
10 and thereby satisfy the contingency;
11 providing the information and the condition from the selling system,
12 wherein acceptance of the condition forms a contract;
13 triggering at least part of a payment from the buying system upon
14 satisfaction of the condition; and
15 receiving the payment upon the buying system having determined that the
16 satisfaction of the condition has resolved the uncertainty and thereby satisfied the
17 ~~contingency-~~ contingency; and

18 adjusting an amount for the at least part of the payment based directly on
19 accuracy of a predicted probability against a true probability that the condition for
20 the contingency will occur.

1 22. (withdrawn-currently amended) The medium as set forth in claim
2 [[22,]] 21, further comprising receiving a base payment as the payment when the
3 information has been provided to the buying system.

1 Claim 23. (cancelled).

1 24. (withdrawn-currently amended) The medium as set forth in claim
2 [[23,]] 21, further comprising:
3 selecting the predicted probability for the condition for the contingency;
4 and
5 determining the amount for the payment based on a function which uses
6 the predicted probability for the condition for the contingency occurring.

1 25. (withdrawn-currently amended) The medium as set forth in claim
2 24, wherein the amount of the payment is maximized when the predicted
3 probability for the condition occurring is equal to [[a]] the true probability for the
4 condition occurring.

1 26. (withdrawn) The medium as set forth in claim 21, further
2 comprising setting the condition to resolve the uncertainty to thereby satisfy the
3 contingency in the received offer.

1 27. (withdrawn) The medium as set forth in claim 26, further
2 comprising:
3 sending a counteroffer to the buying system based on the offer, the
4 counteroffer providing the condition set to resolve the uncertainty to thereby
5 satisfy the contingency to the buying system; and

6 determining if the counteroffer with the condition set is accepted by the
7 buying system, wherein the information is only provided upon the condition set
8 being accepted.

1 Claim 28. (cancelled).

1 Claim 29. (cancelled).

1 30. (withdrawn) The medium as set forth in claim 21, wherein one or
2 more of the steps are carried out electronically.

1 31. (withdrawn) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the
2 information from the selling system in response to the offer is provided without a
3 payment from the buying system.

1 32. (previously presented) The system as set forth in claim 11, wherein
2 the information from the selling system in response to the offer is provided
3 without a payment from the buying system.

1 33. (withdrawn) The medium as set forth in claim 21, wherein the
2 information from the selling system in response to the offer is provided without a
3 payment from the buying system.

1 34. (withdrawn-currently amended) An automated method for selling
2 information to a buying system, comprising:
3 relating information to an event that has not yet occurred and storing the
4 information in electronic form;
5 offering the information for online sale through a selling system;
6 receiving from a buying system an offer for the information that includes a
7 contingency that specifies an uncertainty of the event occurring;
8 specifying a condition for the information that will resolve the uncertainty
9 and thereby satisfy the contingency;

10 requiring at least part of a ~~payment~~; payment based directly on accuracy of
11 a predicted probability against a true probability of the event occurring.
12 comprising:
13 selecting ~~[[a]] the~~ predicted probability for the condition to resolve
14 the uncertainty and thereby satisfy the contingency; and
15 determining an amount of the payment based on a function which
16 uses the predicted probability;
17 providing the information and the condition from the selling system,
18 wherein acceptance of the condition forms a contract;
19 triggering the payment from the buying system upon satisfaction of the
20 condition; and
21 receiving the payment upon the buying system subsequently having
22 determined that the satisfaction of the condition has resolved the uncertainty and
23 thereby satisfied the contingency.

1 35. (withdrawn) The method as set forth in claim 34, further
2 comprising:
3 receiving a base payment as the payment upon providing the information
4 to the buying system.

1 36. (withdrawn-currently amended) The method as set forth in claim
2 34, wherein the amount of the payment is maximized when the predicted
3 probability is equal to ~~[[a]] the~~ true probability the condition occurring.

1 37. (withdrawn) The method as set forth in claim 34, wherein the
2 function incorporates risk aversion.

1 38. (currently amended) A system for selling information to a buying
2 system comprising:
3 an interface operatively coupled to a buying system via a communication
4 link;

5 a memory storage device to store information and computer-executable
6 program code in electronic form;
7 a processor, processor configured to execute the computer-executable
8 program code on computer-executable program modules, comprising:
9 a relation module configured to relate the information to an event
10 that has not yet occurred;
11 an offer module configured to offer the information for online sale;
12 a receiving module configured to receive an offer from the buying
13 system for the information that includes a contingency that specifies an
14 uncertainty of the event occurring;
15 a specification module configured to specify a condition for the
16 information that will resolve the uncertainty and thereby satisfy the contingency;
17 a condition module configured to provide the information and the
18 condition, wherein acceptance of the condition forms a contract;
19 a probability module configured to require at least part of a
20 payment based directly on accuracy of a predicted probability; probability against
21 a true probability of the event occurring, to select the predicted probability for the
22 condition to resolve the uncertainty and thereby satisfy the contingency, and to
23 determine an amount for the payment based on a function which uses the
24 predicted probability;
25 a trigger module configured to trigger the payment from the buying
26 system upon satisfaction of the condition; and
27 a contingent payment module configured to receive the payment
28 upon the buying system having determined that the satisfaction of the condition
29 has resolved the uncertainty and thereby satisfied the contingency.

1 39. (previously presented) The system as set forth in claim 38, wherein
2 the payment includes a base payment upon providing the information to the
3 buying system.

1 40. (currently amended) The system as set forth in claim 38, wherein
2 the amount of the payment is maximized when the predicted probability is equal
3 to [[a]] the true probability of the condition occurring.

1 41. (previously presented) The system as set forth in claim 38, wherein
2 the function incorporates risk aversion.